

Rockingham Meeting House
Rockingham, Vermont

HABS No. VT-22

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Vermont

Historic American Buildings Survey
Arthur H. Smith, District Officer
Gryphon Bldg., Rutland, Vt.

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ROCKINGHAM MEETING HOUSE
Rockingham, Windham County, Vermont

<u>Owner</u>	The Old Rockingham Meeting House Assoc.		
<u>Date of Erection</u>	Started June 9, 1787 - Completed 1800.		
<u>Architect</u>	Unknown		
<u>Builder</u>	General Fuller		
<u>Present Condition</u>	<p>This building is in excellent condition at present. Chimney is not original. Color of exterior now white. As regular services were stop^d being held here in 1839, the building being unused was badly mutilated by relic hunters. It was restored to its original condition in 1906.</p>		
<u>Number of Stories</u>	Two		
<u>Materials of Construction</u>	Foundation	-	Stone
	Floors	-	Wood
	Exterior Walls	-	Clapboards
	Interior Walls	-	Lath & Plaster
	Roof	-	Slate

ADDITIONAL DATA

This Meeting House was started to be erected June 9, 1787 and was completed in 1800. It was built by the Town of Rockingham, under the direction of General Fuller, a Master Builder, and prominent citizen of Rockingham.

It was built for use as a house of worship for the whole town, and as a town house for the transaction of public business.

Regular religious services were held here until 1839, and Voters met here in town meetings until about 1870. Thereafter, the building being unused was badly mutilated by relic hunters. It was restored to its original condition in 1906, with money derived from individual subscriptions and an appropriation from the town, and was rededicated on August 15, 1907. Since that time there has been an annual Pilgrimage, the thirtieth being held August 2, 1936.

This building so interesting and quaint is an object lesson of the Architecture and methods of building in the Old Colonial days. It has the severest Puritan outline, the only deviation from the rectangular being an, "enclosed two story Porch", at each end, from which stairs ascend to the gallery.

As was the custom in those days it was built near the center of the town, on a hill a silent and lofty guardian, watching over the affairs of men in the valley below.

It is the only Church building in Vermont dating back to Colonial days that retains the original characteristics in its exterior as well as interior appearance.

Data for this history was taken from a wall tablet in the building, and from a book titled, "History of the town of Rockingham", written by, Lyman Simpson Hayes, published by Frank S. Whittiers, Lynn, Mass. in the year of 1907.

Approved:

Arthur H. Smith.
District Officer

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4/4/37

ADDENDUM TO
MEETINGHOUSE
(Rockingham Meetinghouse)
Rockingham
Windham County
Vermont

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REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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